

Comprehensive Tuberculosis Elimination Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-392; 122 Stat. 4195) led to a historic United States commitment to support the global eradication of TB, including a commitment to treat 4,500,000 TB patients and 90,000 MDR-TB patients between 2009 and 2013 and to provide additional treatment through coordinated multilateral efforts;

Whereas USAID—

(1) provides technical assistance to 55 countries and implements bilateral programs in 23 high-burden TB countries that—

(A) build capacity; and

(B) support the adoption of state-of-the-art TB-related technologies;

(2) supports the development of new diagnostic and treatment tools; and

(3) supports research to develop new vaccines and other new methods to combat TB;

Whereas, in 2018, USAID launched—

(1) a new business model entitled “Global Accelerator to End Tuberculosis” to accelerate progress and build capacity with respect to TB prevention and treatment; and

(2) a new mechanism to directly support local organizations in priority countries;

Whereas TB incidence in the countries that receive bilateral TB funding from the United States through USAID has decreased by more than 29 percent since 2000;

Whereas, according to the Copenhagen Consensus Center, TB prevention programs return \$56 for each dollar invested, which is one of the highest returns on investment of any health intervention;

Whereas CDC, in partnership with other entities of the United States and individual States and territories—

(1) directs the national TB elimination program;

(2) coordinates TB surveillance, technical assistance, and prevention activities; and

(3) helps to support the development of new diagnostic, treatment, and prevention tools to combat TB;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health, through its many institutes and centers, plays the leading role in basic and clinical research on the identification, treatment, and prevention of TB;

Whereas the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (referred to in this preamble as the “Global Fund”), to which the United States is a top financial donor, provides more than 73 percent of all international financing for TB programs;

Whereas, in 2019, Global Fund-supported programs detected and treated more than 5,700,000 cases of TB;

Whereas the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and mitigation efforts put in place as a result of the pandemic have taken a devastating toll on countries with the highest burden of TB disease and on the global TB response, threatening to reverse up to 8 years of progress fighting the disease;

Whereas, in 2020, in the 23 high-burden TB countries in which USAID implements bilateral programs, 1,000,000 fewer people with TB had access to diagnosis and treatment, a 23 percent decline from 2019;

Whereas, between 2020 and 2025, global projections estimate that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will lead to an additional 6,300,000 cases of TB and an additional 1,400,000 TB deaths; and

Whereas March 24, 2021, is World Tuberculosis Day, a day that commemorates the date in 1882 on which Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacterium that causes TB: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of World Tuberculosis Day to raise awareness about tuberculosis;

(2) commends the progress of tuberculosis elimination efforts by entities that include

the United States Agency for International Development, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the World Health Organization, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and

(3) reaffirms the commitment to strengthen the leadership role of the United States in, and the effectiveness of the global response to, the fight to end the tuberculosis epidemic.

SENATE RESOLUTION 138—URGING THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO EXEMPT CERTAIN TECHNOLOGIES USED TO DETECT CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION EPRIVACY DIRECTIVE

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 138

Whereas ensuring the safety of children online is a global issue that nations must address together;

Whereas the online trafficking of child sexual abuse material (referred to in this preamble as “CSAM”) and online enticement of children (also known as “grooming”) are pervasive problems that are growing at dramatic rates;

Whereas crucial tools in detecting CSAM and grooming online and protecting children using online platforms from child predators are hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies that are voluntarily used by electronic service providers (referred to in this preamble as “ESPs”) to detect, report, and remove CSAM;

Whereas the use of hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technology by ESPs has generated millions of reports annually to the CyberTipline of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children;

Whereas the CyberTipline is a global hotline for reports related to child sexual exploitation that was authorized by Congress in 1998;

Whereas in 2019, more than 69,000,000 images, videos, and files related to child sexual abuse were reported to the CyberTipline, with more than 3,000,000 of these images, videos, and files related to an offender or child victim in the European Union (referred to in this preamble as the “EU”);

Whereas in a Communication to the European Parliament, dated July 24, 2020, the European Commission noted, “the EU has become the largest host of child sexual abuse material globally (from more than half in 2016 to more than two thirds in 2019)”;

Whereas in 2018, an EU Directive extended the scope of prohibitions on processing personal data in the electronic communications sector to cover interpersonal communications, such as messenger services and e-mail;

Whereas this EU Directive caused ESPs to lose the legal basis to use hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies to detect and report CSAM and online enticement of children to the CyberTipline;

Whereas this EU Directive took effect on December 21, 2020, without any derogation to exempt the voluntary practice of using these technologies to detect and report distribution of CSAM and enticement of children for sexual abuse;

Whereas the prohibition on the use of hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies will have dire consequences for children in Europe and globally;

Whereas, since the EU Directive took effect, reports to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children’s CyberTipline from the EU decreased by 51 percent during the 6-week period immediately following the Directive’s implementation compared to the same period in 2020;

Whereas it is unclear whether ESPs—

(1) will be able to partition the use of hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies to carve out users in the EU; and

(2) will decide to abandon the voluntary use of these technologies in the United States and globally;

Whereas since children in the United States can be harmed by online predators in the EU through grooming, enticement, and the dissemination of CSAM images among EU offenders, such material should be detected, reported, and removed;

Whereas if the use of hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies for detecting CSAM and grooming is stopped, the exploitation of children globally will largely go undetected and continue to proliferate; and

Whereas Congress agrees with the European Commission that “immediate action must be taken to address this issue”;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) finds that hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies are essential in detecting child sexual abuse material and exploitation online, including known and new CSAM, and grooming of children globally; and

(2) urges the European Parliament to enact legislation that amends the EU Directive to allow electronic service providers to continue their current voluntary activities of using hashing, PhotoDNA, and anti-grooming technologies for the purpose of detecting child sexual exploitation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 139—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BLUEBERRY INDUSTRY TO THE UNITED STATES AND DESIGNATING JULY 2021 AS “NATIONAL BLUEBERRY MONTH”

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KING, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 139

Whereas blueberries are a native North American fruit, first managed and harvested as wild blueberries by the native Wabanaki;

Whereas wild blueberries continue to be managed and harvested in Maine by farmers including the Wabanaki, as a native, naturally occurring crop;

Whereas the pioneering work conducted in New Jersey in the early 1900s by Elizabeth White and Dr. Frederick Coville, a botanist at the Department of Agriculture, to domesticate wild lowbush blueberries resulted in the development of the hybrid for cultivated highbush blueberries;

Whereas because of these early efforts, highbush blueberries are large, sweet, juicy berries that can be commercially produced and shipped;

Whereas wild blueberries—

(1) are small and sweet; and

(2) are not planted, but still grow and are harvested where they have naturally occurred for thousands of years;

Whereas the blueberry industry in the United States is an important sector of